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did appeal, I think, to all the German and foreign audiences who had given attention to LESSING's plays, and in that sense it was not only suited for the stage, but was most admirable in dramatic unity and action.

Is there further discussion on the paper? If not, we will take the next paper, "The Jersey Dialect," by Prof. JOSEPH S. SHEFLOE, of the Woman's College of Baltimore.

Discussion on this paper was opened by Mr. E. S. LEWIS of Johns Hopkins University, who said :

Mr. President, the subject of the paper that has just been read is of especial interest to me, as I was in Guernsey during the two summers that Dr. SHEFLOE was in Jersey; Dr. SHEFLOE was studying the patois of Jersey, while I was working on that of the sister island, Guernsey. The paper we have just listened to is so complete in itself that I cannot add anything to it by way of criticism, and must, therefore, be pardoned if I wander somewhat into the general field of dialect study.

The importance of this study is now recognized all over Europe, and also in America, as is shown by the formation of the American Dialect Society. But the question of how to study a dialect is one that has not yet been satisfactorily answered. Thanks to such specialists as our Mr. BELL, SWEET and ELLIS of England, PASSY of France, BEYER, VIETOR, TRAUTMANN of Germany, STORM, JESPERSEN and others, we are now enabled to make use of what may be called "physiological phonetics." It is no longer sufficient to state facts only; it is not sufficient, for example, to say that the Latin *A* becomes *e* in certain positions in old French, that *CLARUM* gives the old French *cler*. That is merely stating a fact. We should also say that the Latin back vowel *A* (granting, for the sake of argument, that *A* was a back vowel) develops into the front vowel *e*; and, in addition, we must explain how and why this back vowel came to be a front vowel.

Going back to the study of the dialects of the Channel Islands, I want to call attention to a fact touched upon by Dr. SHEFLOE, and mentioned by several authors (most recently by PAUL PASSY in his work on the 'Changement Phonétiques'), and that is, that the patois of a small island like Jersey is more apt to be divided into sub-patois or sub-dialects, than would be the patois of an equal area in an open country; as, on the continent. We see this fact exemplified in Guernsey. This island slopes toward the north, and consequently its parishes are divided into upper and lower parishes; it is in the lower parishes that the wealthy people have their country homes and to which most of the strangers go for a visit of one or two days. There is, therefore, in these parishes much more intercourse with the outside world than in the upper parishes, and the patois is natu-

rally fast changing and becoming more like French proper. The upper parishes present another stage of development, and even these parishes are divided, as the patois spoken in the forest parish, not far from Saint-Peter-Port, differs from that heard in the Torteval parish, at the extreme end of the island.

Just one more point, and that is, that the dialects of Jersey, Guernsey and Alderney differ decidedly from one another; as to Sark, although nearer Guernsey than to any other of the Channel Islands and belonging to the same bailiwick, yet, having been first settled by a Jersey family, it makes use of a patois that is really a development of the Jersey dialect.

Prof. J. M. HART. I should like to submit one question with regard to the names of these islands. In connection with the word "Jersey," it occurred to me in the course of the paper that Jersey has always been explained as a corruption of Cæsarean.

The President. Dr. SHEFLOE could probably answer the question.

Dr. SHEFLOE. It is very difficult to develop phonetically and regularly "Jersey" out of "Cæsar."

Prof. HART. I know. But the point that occurred to me is this: Here we have three names each ending in the same syllable. May not that termination be the well-known Scandinavian *ey*, 'island'? Consequently, may not the three names be regarded as of Norse origin, before the Normans adopted the language of the French? What is the difference between Aldern-ey, so far as the termination is concerned, and Jers-ey? What is the difference between Guerns-ey and Linds-ey? Would not these names signify the islands of Guern (Warren) of Aldern, of Jer? I cannot think of any Scandinavian origin for Jer; only Guernsey for Warren, and Alderney for Aldern.

Mr. LEWIS. In Ohio there is a whole county called Guernsey, and, in answer to Prof. HART's questions, I believe it is JARET who calls attention to these endings in *-ey* of some of the Channel Islands, and suggests that they may have a particular meaning, although he cannot be positive about them.

Prof. CHAMBERLAIN. I may say that the town of Sarnia in Ontario is named from the island of Sarnia in the Channel Islands.

The President. Is there any further discussion on the outline of the paper as read?

Dr. SHEFLOE. I might mention the fact that the name of the State of New Jersey came from the island of Jersey.

The President. Is there any further discussion on this topic? If not, the Chair would like to give two or three important notices.

The notices were announces and at 5 o'clock, P. M., the Association adjourned until the following morning, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

FIFTH SESSION.*

The **Fifth Session** was devoted to a meeting of the PHONETIC SECTION. The meeting was called to order at 3.30 P. M., Dec. 30, by Prof. A. M. BELL, President of the Section.

The Secretary, Mr. C. H. GRANDGENT, submitted the following report, which was adopted:—

PHONETIC SECTION.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1891.

The results of my first circular, sent out in August, 1890, are still unpublished: I have on hand Prof. J. P. FRUIT's phonetic notation of an 'Uncle Remus' story, and seven American versions of paragraph thirty-eight of SWEET'S 'Elementarbuch.' The latter transcriptions represent the States of Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, and are accompanied by explanatory notes and introductions. I hope that all of this matter will be printed in 1892, by the American Dialect Society. I have, moreover, through the kindness of Mr. C. P. LEBON and Dr. R. HOCHDÖRFER, been able to make an interesting study of French vowels, and careful measurements and drawings of all the principal German vowels and the German consonants that are hardest for Americans to imitate. The fruits of this research I expect soon to publish in a form that will show modern language teachers the practical utility of this kind of phonetic investigation.

My second and third circulars, which were distributed in the autumn of 1890 and the spring of 1891, were intended to draw out some information with regard to the prevalence and the geographical distribution of certain varieties of American pronunciation. The facts elicited by the two sets of questions have appeared in *Modern Language Notes* for January and December 1891. I think I have succeeded in making a tolerably satisfactory study of some features of the speech of educated persons in New England, the Middle States (except Delaware), Ohio, Maryland, Kentucky, Tennessee, and the Carolinas. All of these states except the last two I have visited myself. From the rest of the country my returns have been very meagre. A few interesting matters that I have not yet thoroughly investigated are the values of *wh*, the different types of *r*, the "coronal" pronunciation of certain vowels, the *a-æ* and the *o-ɔ* series, and the Southern varieties of *v*, *û*, and *u*. When I have collected material concerning

*The Secretary of the Association regrets that he is unable to give the discussions on the papers of the **Fourth Session**, since the Stenographer failed to send in a report both of this and of the Fifth Session. The notes here presented for the PHONETIC SECTION, have been kindly furnished by the Secretary of the Section.